

I CLAIM:

1. A resilient switch contact comprising a unitary conductive body having:

5 first and second mounting end portions disposed in a first plane and spaced apart from each other in a first direction;

10 a central operating portion disposed in a second plane spaced apart from the first plane in a second direction transverse to the first direction, said central operating portion being further disposed between said first and second mounting end portions, said central operating portion having two ends opposite to each other in the first direction; and

15 first and second intermediate buffer portions, each of which interconnects a respective one of said first and second mounting end portions to a respective one of said ends of said central operating portion.

20 2. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each of said first and second intermediate buffer portions includes a bend section extending from the respective one of said first and second mounting end portions, and a linear extension section extending from said bend section to the respective one of said ends of said central operating portion.

25 3. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said bend section is inverted U-shaped.

4. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1,

wherein each of said first and second intermediate buffer portions includes a first curved section extending from the respective one of said first and second mounting end portions in the second direction toward the other one of said first and second intermediate buffer portions, and a second curved section extending from said first curved section in the second direction toward the respective one of said ends of said central operating portion.

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10 5. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said central operating portion is formed with a projection that protrudes in the second direction toward the first plane.

6. A key switch device comprising:

15 a circuit board formed with an electrical contact unit; and

a unitary conductive body having

first and second mounting end portions spaced apart from each other in a first direction and mounted on said circuit board such that said electrical contact unit is disposed therebetween,

20 a central operating portion disposed between said first and second mounting end portions and spaced apart from said electrical contact unit of said circuit board in a second direction transverse to the first direction, 25 said central operating portion having two ends opposite to each other in the first direction, and

first and second intermediate buffer portions,
each of which interconnects a respective one of said
first and second mounting end portions to a respective
one of said ends of said central operating portion,

5 said central operating portion being operable so
as to move from a normal position, where said central
operating portion is spaced apart from said electrical
contact unit, to a pressed position, where said central
operating portion and said first and second intermediate
10 buffer portions deform and where said central operating
portion contacts electrically said electrical contact
unit,

each of said first and second intermediate buffer
portions providing a restoring force to move said central
15 operating portion from the pressed position back to the
normal position.

7. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein
each of said first and second intermediate buffer
portions includes a bend section extending from the
20 respective one of said first and second mounting end
portions, and a linear extension section extending from
said bend section to the respective one of said ends
of said central operating portion.

8. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein
25 said bend section is inverted U-shaped.

9. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein
each of said first and second intermediate buffer

portions includes a first curved section extending from the respective one of said first and second mounting end portions in the second direction toward the other one of said first and second intermediate buffer portions, and a second curved section extending from said first curved section in the second direction toward the respective one of said ends of said central operating portion.

10. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said central operating portion is formed with a projection that protrudes in the second direction toward said circuit board and that contacts electrically said electrical contact unit when said central operating portion is in the pressed position.

11. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said circuit board is further formed with a pair of solder pads for mounting said first and second mounting end portions of said conductive body respectively thereon, said central operating portion connecting electrically said electrical contact unit to said solder pads when said central operating portion is in the pressed position.

12. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said electrical contact unit includes a pair of electrical contacts spaced apart from each other, said central operating portion interconnecting electrically said electrical contacts of said electrical contact unit

when said central operating portion is in the pressed position.